A Mercy Education is committed to excellence and enables every student to achieve her potential by developing her unique gifts and talents.
OUR MISSION

A Catholic Independent Girls’ School

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta is a leading Catholic independent girls’ school founded on the Mercy charism. As a welcoming community, we value the pursuit of excellence and the development of each individual as a learner, leader and teacher.

The College’s founding Sisters arrived in Parramatta from Callan, Ireland in 1888, determined to provide young women with new opportunities, including the chance for further education. The Sisters worked tirelessly to establish the foundations for what has become a leading independent school in the heart of Western Sydney.

OLMC Parramatta is one of the oldest Catholic girls’ schools in NSW. From its establishment in 1889 until 2003, only seven women held the position of College Principal, all of whom were Sisters of Mercy. This continuity in vision over the years saw a treasured legacy established, including an unwavering commitment to social justice.

Our vision is to provide a contemporary Mercy Education that empowers young women to lead with courage and act justly, making a difference in whatever sphere of life they choose to move, in the spirit of the Sisters of Mercy Foundress, Venerable Catherine McAuley.
“Empowering young women to make a difference.”
As a community, we are true to the Mercy tradition and our Mercy Values. We are committed to carrying on the vision of Venerable Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy, carving new paths for this strong charism into the future.

The passion of the founding Sisters was twofold: a passion for nurturing the Catholic faith and undertaking Works of Mercy as well as a strong commitment to the education of young women.

Education at OLMC is a faith-filled experience: students are encouraged to explore the Catholic faith and to maturely engage with their spirituality. A Mercy Education is committed to a deeper engagement with the mission of the Catholic Church through liturgical celebration, prayer, reflection and opportunities for formation, leadership and involvement in ministry through practical Works of Mercy.

In addition to excellence in education, we are known for our focus on dignity and respect, as well as our strong sense of justice and social responsibility. A Mercy Education develops faith in Jesus Christ which finds expression in reaching out with compassion to welcome the ‘stranger’, the marginalised, and those in need. The College equips young women to be ambassadors of Mercy who embrace their role in society with confidence.
Our name is Mercy, our spirit is compassion.

Venerable Catherine McAuley
Since 1889, OLMC has been inspiring girls to excellence.
Our community of learners, leaders, teachers is inspired to expand beyond what they know they can be in both their personal and social spheres, in the pursuit of excellence.

The College has a long history of providing quality, contemporary education to young women and has continued to be a leading school in Western Sydney. For 130 years, dedicated and professional staff have followed in the footsteps of the founding Mercy Sisters, determined to foster better practice teaching and learning.

The College’s transforming learning framework underpins our focus on embracing innovation and reinvention to meet the needs of modern learners. Our understanding of the dynamic nature of learning intrinsically supports our contemporary curriculum, assessment and pedagogy. Innovative teaching and learning enables meaningful delivery of the curriculum through program development that is contemporary, differentiated, student centred and focuses on how girls learn best. OLMC aims to develop in students a growth mindset and the skills necessary to flourish and lead with courage, making a genuine contribution to the world.

Ambitious building programs have kept OLMC at the very forefront of girls’ education through the strategic transformation of our campus. The latest Master Plan further modernises our learning spaces and also expands our campus with the restoration of our 2016 acquisition, the historic Roseneath Cottage.
Our dynamic learning environment ignites a love of life-long learning.
Mercy Girls embrace the passionate spirit of the Mercy legacy.
Pastoral Care at OLMC is an integrated process of education and skill building that is based on relationships and affirmation, supportive and celebratory in its academic care approach.

The College firmly believes that a positive approach to learning, a nurturing environment and quality relationships, both inside and outside of school, improve student performance.

OLMC is a closely knit, inclusive community made up of smaller families. When a student commences at OLMC, she is placed into one of the eight College Houses which are named after people or locations significant to the College’s heritage. The Vertical House Pastoral Care System fosters strong links between girls, teachers and parents/carers. Mercy Girls stay in the same Homeroom for their whole time at the College; by knowing each girl and building positive relationships, staff can effectively meet their needs.

Girls’ schools are unique. Not only is the curriculum tailored to the needs of girls, every day they see girls achieve, take leadership roles, try new things and succeed. At the age where girls are forging their identities and aspirations, they are free to focus on strong friendships and to dare to imagine what is possible.

The College’s Pastoral Care Program is intentionally designed to help foster wellbeing and resilience, creating an environment where each girl feels supported, safe and ready to take a chance, believing in her potential.
Transforming Horizons
Expanding beyond what we know we can be

Opportunities to expand beyond what we know we can be abound at the College: our Co-curricular Program delivers many ways to excel in academic, sporting and creative interests because we believe that a life beyond the classroom builds confidence, friendships, resilience and an adventurous mindset.

As a school of choice, the College draws students from a wide geographical area, into the heart of Parramatta. For thousands of years, the area has been occupied by the Burratagall people, a clan of the Darug, who first settled along the upper reaches of the Parramatta River. Today, Parramatta is a dynamic and growing hub that is fast becoming a key cultural centre of Sydney, blending a rich history with the cutting edge of Australian culture as museums, universities, and cultural and food hubs flourish in the area. It is an exciting time to be part of the fabric of Parramatta as new infrastructure projects transform this lively city, creating further opportunities for our students.

Mercy Girls have the chance to transform their horizons through international opportunities and networks. Students embrace a global perspective by attending Immersions and Language, Culture and Arts International Tours. Girls ‘make Mercy a verb’ by participating in fundraising for international projects through, for example, Mercy Works. Networks such as Mercy 6 provide a chance for students from the Sydney Mercy schools to collaborate, reflect on the Mercy charism and take action, together carrying on the mission of Venerable Catherine McAuley.
Expanding beyond what we know we can be
A TRANSFORMING LEGACY

For over 130 years, OLMC Parramatta graduates have continued the legacy of Sisters of Mercy foundress, Venerable Catherine McAuley, by making a positive contribution across so many fields and communities, truly living out what it means to be a ‘Mercy Girl.’
A work of the Sisters of Mercy
Parramatta since 1889